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New Jersey's FARM FACTS

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New Jersey Farm Numbers and Land in Farms Unchanged from 2006

The number of New Jersey farms in 2007 is estimated at 9,800 farms, unchanged from last year. Land in farms in the Garden State is estimated at 790,000 acres, the same as in 2006. The average farm size is unchanged at 81 acres.

United States Farms and Land in Farms Down Slightly in 2007

The number of farms in the United States in 2007 is estimated at 2.08 million, down 0.6 percent from 2006. Land in farms at 930.9 million acres, is down 1.5 million acres from the previous year. The average farm size is 449 acres compared to 446 acres in 2006.

Number of Farms: Selected States and United States, 2002-2007

State	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Maryland	12,200	12,100	12,100	12,100	12,000	12,000
New Jersey	9,900	9,900	9,900	9,800	9,800	9,800
New York	37,000	37,000	36,000	35,600	35,000	34,200
Pennsylvania	58,200	58,200	58,200	58,200	58,200	58,000
United States	2,135,360	2,126,860	2,112,970	2,098,690	2,088,790	2,075,510

Land in Farms: Selected States and United States, 2002-2007

State	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres
Maryland	2,080	2,060	2,050	2,040	2,035	2,035
New Jersey	820	820	820	790	790	790
New York	7,660	7,650	7,600	7,550	7,500	7,500
Pennsylvania	7,700	7,700	7,700	7,700	7,650	7,650
United States	940,300	938,650	936,295	933,210	932,430	930,920

Average Farm Size: Selected States and United States, 2002-2007

State	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Maryland	170	170	169	169	170	170
New Jersey	83	83	83	81	81	81
New York	207	207	211	212	214	219
Pennsylvania	132	132	132	132	131	132
United States	440	441	443	445	446	449

Farm Definition History: The definition of a farm has remained the same since 1974. Activities included as agriculture, however, have undergone modification in recent years. Beginning in 1995, operations having 5 or more horses or ponies and no other agricultural sales were counted as horse farms. An operation with 1 or more horses with agricultural sales of at least \$1,000, qualified as a farm. Two industries, maple syrup and short rotation woody crop farms, were added beginning in 1997 as a result of the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). These changes were made to achieve comparability with the Census of Agriculture farm definition. All the changes in the farm definition beginning in 1995 were carried back to 1993 and included in the 1993-1998 estimates. These changes bring comparability to the Census of Agriculture data and the annually published NASS estimates. Because of these changes in the farm definition, the official estimates show a level difference in the number of farms between 1992 and 1993 in some states. To further align the counting of farms with the Census of Agriculture, places with 100 acres or more of pasture only in 2002 were included in farm and land in farm numbers. The handling of Indian reservation land was changed in 2002 to provide some accounting for individual farms.

2007 New Jersey Acreage, Production, Price, and Value

Barley: Barley planted and harvested acreage remained unchanged from 2006, at 3,000 and 2,000, respectively. Yield was 68 bushels per acre, an increase of 11 bushels per acre over last year. Production in 2007 increased, by 19 percent, to 136,000 bushels. The prices received by growers were up by \$0.45 per bushel in 2007 to \$2.45 per bushel. The value of barley produced increased by 42 percent from \$234,000 in 2006 to \$333,000 in 2007.

Corn: Corn planted for all purposes in 2007 totaled 95,000 acres, 82,000 of which were harvested for grain. Yield decreased 4 bushels to 125 bushels per acre from the previous year's yield of 129 bushels per acre. The increase in acreage raised production by 2.0 million bushels to a level of 10.3 million bushels. Growers received \$4.25 per bushel for their grain, an increase of \$0.88 per bushel from 2006's price of \$3.37 per bushel. The total crop value, for corn for grain increased, by 57 percent, from \$28.0 million in 2006, to \$44 million in 2007.

Hay: All hay harvested acres was unchanged in 2007 at 115,000 acres. Alfalfa hay acres decreased, by 5,000 acres, to 20,000 acres in 2007. Acreage in other hay rose by 5,000 acres, from last year, to 95,000 acres. Yield per acre of alfalfa hay increased by 8 percent to 2.7 tons per acre while yield per acre of other hay decreased by 16 percent to 1.6 tons per acre. The overall hay yield was 1.79 tons per acre. Alfalfa production was 54,000 tons and other hay production was 152,000 tons; the resulting total hay production was 206,000 tons. The season average price for all hay increased \$15.00 per ton from \$133 in 2006 to \$148 per ton in 2007. Overall, total hay crop value decreased, by 0.5 percent in 2007, to \$30.5 million.

Potatoes: Potatoes planted and harvested acreage totals decreased by 100 acres to 2,400 acres in 2007. Yield was 265 hundredweight per acre, an increase of 25 hundredweight from 2006. Production was 636,000 hundredweight in 2007 compared with 600,000 hundredweight in 2006. The total crop value decreased, by 2 percent, from \$5.2 million in 2006 to \$5.1 million in 2007.

Soybeans: Soybean planted and harvested acreages decreased by 7,000 acres, to 81,000 acres planted and 79,000 acres harvested, in 2007. Soybean yield was down 4 bushels per acre from 2006's yield of 35 bushels per acre to 31 bushels per acre in 2007. Production decreased to 2.45 million bushels in 2007, from 3.0 million bushels in 2006. The prices received by growers increased by \$3.50, from \$6.25 per bushel in 2006, to \$9.75 per bushel in 2007. The total crop value increased, by 27 percent, to \$23.9 million.

Sweet Potatoes: Sweet potato planted and harvested acreage was unchanged, at 1,200 acres, from the previous year. Yield was 100 hundredweight per acre, a decrease of 35 hundredweight per acre over last year's. Production in 2007 decreased, by 25 percent, to 120,000 hundredweight. The price per hundredweight increased by \$0.40, to \$28.10, from 2006.

Wheat: The 31,000 acres planted to winter wheat in 2007 was 6,000 acres more than in 2006. Harvested acreage was set at 28,000, an increase of 6,000 acres above 2006's harvested acres. Yield at 51 bushels per acre was 9 bushels per acre more than the previous year's. Production at 1.43 million bushels was up 8 percent from 2006. The season average price of \$5.25 per bushel was \$1.45 more than the price in 2006. The total crop value increased, by 49 percent, to \$7.5 million.

Field Crops: 2007 New Jersey Acreage, Yield, Production, Price, and Value of Production

Crop	Unit	Acres		Yield per Acre	Production	Season Average Price	Value of Production
		Planted	Harvested				
		1,000	1,000	Units	1,000 Units	Dollars Per Unit	\$1,000
Barley	bu	3	2	68	136	2.45	333
Corn for grain 1/	bu	95	82	125	10,250	4.25	43,563
Hay, All	ton		115	1.79	206	148.00	30,548
Alfalfa Hay	ton		20	2.7	54	166.00	8,964
Other Hay	ton		95	1.6	152	142.00	21,584
Potatoes	cwt	2.4	2.4	265	636	8.05	5,120
Soybeans	bu	81	79	31	2,449	9.75	23,878
Sweet Potatoes	cwt	1.2	1.2	100	120	28.10	3,372
Winter Wheat	bu	31	28	51	1,428	5.25	7,497

1/ Planted acres for corn includes acres planted for all purposes

Crop Values: Summary for Selected States and United States, 2007

State	Field and Misc Crops	Fruit and Nuts	Commercial Vegetables	Total Value of Principal Crops
	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Delaware	105,388	1/	29,371	134,759
Maryland	335,795	9,744	38,205	383,744
New Jersey	69,934	119,253	102,731	291,918
Pennsylvania	1,342,701	102,665	88,898	1,534,264
United States	78,730,257	16,312,275	11,083,349	106,125,881

2006-2007 Wheat County Estimates, New Jersey

County	Acres Planted For All Purposes		Acres Harvested		Yield Per Acre (Bushels)		Production (Bushels)	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
District 20 (North)								
Hunterdon	2,500	2,400	2,300	2,200	55.0	54.0	126,500	118,800
Somerset	1,600	1,500	1,500	1,300	54.0	50.0	81,000	65,000
Warren	1,100	1,100	1,000	1,000	56.0	52.0	56,000	52,000
Other Counties	---	200	---	200	---	50.0	---	---
District 50 (Central)								
Burlington	2,400	2,800	2,200	2,800	64.0	55.0	140,800	154,000
Monmouth	1,100	1,000	800	900	55.0	56.0	44,000	50,400
Other Counties	500	1,500	400	1,400	65.0	41.0	26,000	57,400
District 80 (South)								
Cumberland	5,500	6,900	4,900	6,200	61.0	52.0	298,900	322,400
Gloucester	3,100	3,500	2,600	2,900	58.0	47.0	150,800	136,300
Salem	6,600	9,100	6,000	8,300	63.0	51.0	378,000	423,300
Other Counties	600	1,000	300	800	60.0	48.0	18,000	38,400
State	25,000	31,000	22,000	28,000	60.0	51.0	1,320,000	1,428,000

2006-2007 Barley County Estimates, New Jersey

County	Acres Planted For All Purposes		Acres Harvested		Yield Per Acre (Bushels)		Production (Bushels)	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
District 80 (South)								
Gloucester	900	800	500	500	54.0	61.0	27,000	30,500
Salem	1,100	1,200	900	800	62.0	82.0	55,800	65,600
Other Counties 1/	1,000	1,000	600	700	52.0	57.0	31,200	39,900
State	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	57.0	68.0	114,000	136,000

1/ Other counties could have come from any of the districts.

New Jersey Honey Production

New Jersey honey production in 2007 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 513,000 pounds, up 58 percent from 2006. The number of colonies, at 9,000, remained the same. The average yield per colony was 57 pounds in 2007 compared to 36 pounds in 2006. The average price received for honey sold during 2007 was 217 cents, up 89 percent from 2006. The value of the 2007 honey crop was \$1,113,000, up from \$373,000 the previous year. Honey stocks on December 15, 2007 amounted to 185,000 pounds, up 33,000 pounds from 2006.

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, and Production, by Selected States and United States, 2006 and 2007 1/

Selected States	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
1,000 Colonies			Pounds		1,000 pounds	
New Jersey	9	9	36	57	324	513
New York	60	56	64	57	3,840	3,192
Pennsylvania	28	25	40	42	1,120	1,050
United States	2,393	2,442	64.7	60.8	154,907	148,482

Honey: Stocks, Price, and Value by Selected States and United States, 2006 and 2007 1/

Selected States	Stocks, December 15 2/		Average Price Per Pound 3/		Value of Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
1,000 Pounds			Cents		1,000 dollars	
New Jersey	152	185	115	217	373	1,113
New York	2,458	1,947	130	142	4,992	4,533
Pennsylvania	605	326	163	163	1,826	1,712
United States	60,548	52,484	103.6	103.2	160,484	153,233

1/ For producers with 5 or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state.

2/ Stocks held by producers.

3/ Prices weighted by sales.

February Farm Prices Index Unchanged From January

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 145, based on 1990-92=100, was unchanged from January. The Crop Index is up 0.6 percent while the Livestock Index increased 0.8 percent. Producers received higher prices for corn, soybeans, wheat and hogs. Lower prices were received for milk, broccoli, lettuce and tomatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cattle, broilers, milk and eggs offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat and cotton.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 13.0 percent from February 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 145, decreased 0.7 percent from last month but increased 13.0 percent from February 2007.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 172 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 1.2 percent from January and 10.0 percent above February 2007. Higher prices in February for complete feeds, feed concentrates, feeder cattle, potash and phosphate materials offset lower prices for LP gas, gasoline, self-propelled machinery and other machinery.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Feb 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008
- - Dollars - -			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	3.09	4.34	4.06
Corn, per bushel	3.44	3.97	4.25
Hay, all, baled, per ton ^{1/}	113.00	129.00	133.00
Soybeans, per bushel	6.87	9.96	11.00
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb ^{2/}	.297	.356	.347
Strawberries, per cwt	147.00	194.00	163.00
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	23.60	30.80	23.00
Lettuce, per cwt	15.50	17.50	12.50
Tomatoes, per cwt	31.20	58.20	45.50
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	86.10	87.30	87.80
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	91.40	93.40	93.20
Cows, per cwt ^{3/}	47.00	46.30	49.70
Calves, per cwt	114.00	117.00	118.00
Broilers, live, per lb ^{4/}	.470	.480	.500
Eggs, all, per dozen ^{1/}	.781	1.290	1.310
Milk, all, per cwt ^{5/ 6/}	14.90	20.50	19.30

Source: NASS Agricultural Prices, February 2008

^{1/} Mid-month price.

^{2/} Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, and NY (apples only), and WA (apples, peaches, and pears). Prices as sold for other states.

^{3/} Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

^{4/} Equivalent liveweight returns to producers for most states. Includes growers and contractors.

^{5/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{6/} February 2008 fat test percent: all milk 3.77 fluid milk 3.76 and mfg grade 4.07